

Serial No. 10/726,962

PATENT

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 to 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis mounted on a deployment device, the deployment device comprising a central catheter extending from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end in use remaining outside a patient and the distal end in use being inserted into the descending aorta of a patient, a nose cone on the distal end of the central catheter, the nose cone including means to retain the distal end of the prosthesis with the assistance of a trigger wire, and a deployment catheter co-axially around the central catheter and slidable longitudinally with respect to the central catheter and means to lock the movement of the deployment catheter with respect to the central catheter, the deployment catheter extending from adjacent the nose cone to a position which in use is outside the patient, the prosthesis being tubular and having a proximal end and a distal end and being formed from a biocompatible material, the proximal end to be surgically fastened adjacent and around the aortic heart valve of a patient and the distal end to extend in use into the descending aorta, the distal end including at least one self-expanding stent, the prosthesis being everted and the proximal and distal ends of the prosthesis extending being fastened to the distal end of the deployment device with the proximal end within the distal end and a central portion of the prosthesis extending proximally and wherein the central portion is mounted to a manipulator on the deployment device, the proximal end is fastened to the deployment catheter adjacent to the nose cone and the distal end is fastened to the nose cone dilator.

20. (Cancelled)

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21. (Original) A prosthesis mounted on a deployment device as in Claim 19 wherein the distal end of the prosthesis has an internal self expanding stent and a further uncovered self expanding stent extending therefrom.

22. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis mounted on a deployment device as in Claim 21 wherein there are ~~provided~~ barbs on the uncovered self expanding stent.

23. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis mounted on a deployment device as in Claim 19 wherein the tubular prosthesis is formed from a corrugated biocompatible material and is of varying diameter depending into what portion of the aorta it is intended to be deployed.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis mounted on a deployment device as in Claim 19 24 further including a trigger wire arrangement to retain the distal end of the prosthesis within the nose cone of the deployment device.

26. (Currently Amended) A prosthesis mounted on a deployment device as in Claim 25 24 wherein the trigger wire is also adapted to retain the internal self-expanding stent in a retracted position about the deployment catheter.

27. (Currently Amended ) A deployment device as in Claim 19 24 wherein the nose cone is in the form of a proximally opening capsule to retain the uncovered stent in a contracted condition and thereby also retain the barbs within the capsule before the uncovered stent is released from the nose cone.